

Week 51  
353/12

**Transforming Daily**  
**“... King of the Jews ...”**  
*Matthew 2:2*

King of the Jews – It was once said at a funeral that I attended that we have no control over our birth date or that of our date of death, but that dash in the middle is another story. I pondered and ruminated on that statement for some time. I fully agree with the sentiment, but I would add that we have very little to do with the dash either. At best, with respect to the sovereign will of God, we only influence what transpires during the dash.

I have also been asked, “What do you want on your headstone?” or “What do you want your epitaph to read?” Truthfully I haven’t given it much thought, but whatever the epitaph is it will be according to the choosing of my family and friends, and rightly so according to my influence in and on their lives. I hope it will be something like, “He lived justly, loved mercy, and walked humbly before God.” More importantly, I hope that epitaph is my testimony and can be read of me while I’m still alive.

In the case of Jesus Christ, His epitaph preceded His birth and life. He was destined to live up to what was said about Him. It wasn’t that what would be written would be what was lived, but what was to be lived was already written. He was born King of the Jews. He is actually King of all kings and Lord of all lords irrespective of nation, gender, or race. He was expected to be born King of the Jews, live as King of the Jews, and die King of the Jews. And He did.

When Christ was crucified, above His head was the name King of the Jews. The Jewish leaders wanted the name to be withdrawn and to be rewritten, “He said He was the King of the Jews.” Pilate responded to their request that what had been written was written. Boy was Pilate right! It wasn’t what the Romans or the Jews wrote about Jesus that made it stand, but what God had written about Jesus that made it stand. It stood before He was born and at His death, and it still stands today.

Do you recognize Jesus as the Christ-child? Do you recognize Jesus as the Lord’s anointed? Do you recognize Jesus as your Savior? Do you recognize Jesus as your Lord? Do you recognize Jesus as King of kings and Lord of lords, the One who was born King of the Jews?